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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Fun Day: Saturday, February 13**

*Event will include a food drive*

February 1, 2010 – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, along with the Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department and Town Manager's office, invites area residents to celebrate the season at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Fun Day on Saturday, February 13. This community event will be held from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm outside of the Mansfield Community Center.

There will be a number of fun activities for all ages to enjoy, from ice skating (weather permitting) to musical performances by The Chordials and Rubyfruit, two talented *a cappella* student groups from the University of Connecticut. Visitors can take a break from skating with a ride in a horse drawn wagon, courtesy of Breezy Acres Percherons of Storrs. Or, step inside the Community Center for storytelling with the Mansfield Public Library or hands-on fun with the Mansfield Advocates for Children. Throughout the day, representatives from UConn Dining Services will demonstrate how to create art from ice as they carve ice sculptures on site. Also throughout the day, refreshments will be available for purchase from Lizzie of Taking Care of Tummies Catering.

The Northeast Youth Ice Hockey Mite House team will perform a 3-on-3 demonstration on the ice at 12:30 pm. And, the popular "Wacky Hat Contest" will be held at 2:00 pm. Children are invited to wear their craziest creation or store-bought hat to Winter Fun Day and register for the contest. Prizes for Wackiest, Most Creative, and Judges' Choice will be awarded.

In keeping with the community spirit of the event, a food drive to benefit the Town of Mansfield Human Services' Food Pantry will be held during Winter Fun Day. Visitors are asked to please bring a non-perishable food item (or two or three!) to the Community Center. The Human Services Department requests that donors please ensure that the items are unopened and have not expired. For a list of suggested items, please visit the Winter Fun Day page on the Town's website, [www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org). Questions regarding food donations should be directed to the Human Services Department; their phone number is 860.429.3315.

This event is free and open to the public and will be held outdoors. The inclement weather date is Saturday, February 20. For more information, please contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership: 429.2740 or [mdp@mansfieldct.org](mailto:mdp@mansfieldct.org).